

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Non-Final Office Action dated November 3, 2004 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the current application. Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing claims 1-16 and 27-29. Applicant also thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 18-26 recite allowable subject matter. Applicant amends claim 17 to overcome the §102(e) rejection over U.S. Patent 6,246,074 to Kim.

Kim does not disclose, teach, or suggest “at least one testing data on/off pad is between adjacent data on/off pads...[and]...at least one testing gate on/off pad is between adjacent gate on/off pads”.

Because the cited references do not disclose, teach, or suggest at least this feature of independent claim 17, claim 17 is allowable. Claims 18-26 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependence on claim 17.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

Application No.: 10/026,478

Docket No.: 8733.512.00-US

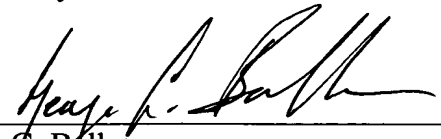
Amendment dated February 3, 2005

Reply to Non-Final Office Action dated November 3, 2004

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this page is enclosed.

Dated: February 3, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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